

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 324-4184



November 6, 1985

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I- 90-85

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Special Circumstances Allowance Program

REFERENCE: MPP EAS 46-425

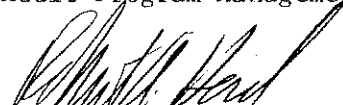
The purpose of this notice is to provide clarification on the utilization of certain liquid assets for Special Circumstances Allowance (SCA) program eligibility.

SCA program benefits are available to recipients of the State Supplementary Program (SSP) if certain additional eligibility requirements are met. MPP EAS 46-425.3 requires that: "The costs of any special circumstances shall be met by first requiring the recipient to utilize all but \$300 of his/her available liquid assets." Certain exclusions from consideration as a liquid asset are established, including burial trusts, in the definition of "liquid assets" at MPP EAS 46-425.27.

For Supplemental Security Income (SSI) purposes, a 1984 federal law at Section 1613 (a)(2) of the Social Security Act allows a \$1500 exclusion for money placed in a trust for funeral expenses or for funds set aside for burial expenses. The Social Security Administration (SSA) allows this exclusion for SSI/SSP recipients if the money is separately identifiable and has been set aside to meet burial and related expenses. The money may not be used for any other purpose.

When a county identifies a SCA case in which funds have been set aside for burial expenses, and approved by SSA as an excludable resource, it should not consider such monies an available liquid asset for SCA program purposes. Therefore, an applicant is not required to utilize or "spend-down" such burial resources in order to qualify for SCA.

If you have any questions regarding the SCA program, please contact the Adult Program Management Bureau at (916) 324-4184.

  
ROBERT A. MOREL  
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA